



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL

GOVERNOR

HAROLD LEGGETT, Ph.D.

SECRETARY

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Contact: Rodney Mallett

Telephone: 225.219.3964

Kleinpeter Farms joins DEQ Environmental Leadership Program

BATON ROUGE - Kleinpeter Farms Dairy, based in Baton Rouge, recently became the latest member of the DEQ Environmental Leadership Program. In its April 7-April 20, 2009 issue, The Greater Baton Rouge Business Report named Kleinpeter Farms Dairy its Company of the Year (100 or more employees). Kleinpeter's involvement in the DEQ Environmental Leadership Program is a positive example of businesses making a commitment to promote a strong sense of environmental stewardship in the state.

The ELP is a voluntary program led by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in partnership with businesses, federal entities, parish/municipal government units, academic and community organizations to promote a cleaner and better environment for Louisiana. Any organization located in Louisiana that fits into one of the above groups and is committed to improving the quality of Louisiana's environment through pollution prevention, waste reduction and other environmental improvements is eligible to join the program as a participating member.

The ELP membership was expanded last year to include schools, colleges, cities, parishes and non-governmental organizations. Also, the ELP Awards application forms were streamlined to include a simple one page summary that details the quantifiable pollution reduction to the state. ELP members recognize and promote pollution prevention, waste reduction, community outreach and other efforts that go above and beyond regulatory requirements.

As a member, entities can obtain information and resources on various pollution prevention opportunities and other environmental management and conservation topics as well as hear from other leaders around the state that are implementing projects. Members can participate in periodic meetings, conferences, and seminars/workshops sponsored by the Environmental Leadership Program.

DEQ ELP members can participate and be recognized in the annual Environmental Leadership Awards for outstanding achievement in various areas. Those areas include pollution prevention, community environmental outreach, environmental management systems, and outstanding environmental ordinance and enforcement. Awardees in these categories are recognized by DEQ at an annual awards ceremony.

For information on how to become a member of the DEQ Environmental Leadership Program, please contact Linda Brown at (225) 219-3954, or by email at linda.brown@la.gov. You can also access our information on the website at www.deq.louisiana.gov/elp.